

FLORIDA COUNCIL ON THE SOCIAL STATUS OF BLACK MEN AND BOYS

MEETING MINUTES

A teleconference meeting of the Florida CSSBMB, Education Subcommittee was held on Wednesday, September 28, 2011.

Council Members Present:

Andre Smith, Chair
Matthew Gregory
Bill Hardin
Gary Siplin

Council Members Absent:

Argatha Gilmore
Stephan Wise
Perry Thurston

Other's Attending:

Ervin P. Cohen, Edward Waters College

First Agenda Item: Welcome

Andre Smith welcomed and thanked everyone for attending the teleconference and thereafter requested roll call.

Second Agenda Item: Roll Call

Roll call was executed by Council staff Tawanna Leven-Forbes.

Third Agenda item: Call to Order

Andre Smith called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. and the agenda was adopted as posted.

Forth Agenda Item: Chairman's Comments

Mr. Smith talked about the subcommittee meeting in Jacksonville and the four recommendations that the committee suggested during the meeting: 1. The importance of Occupational Certification in secondary education, 2. Effectiveness of existing educational policies, 3. Require DOE to disaggregate statistics reported on their website by gender and ethnicity 4. Add a performance component to the FEFP calculation for low performing students. He asked the committee for their comments about sending a letter to the Commissioner of Education about the recommendations.

Senator Siplin suggested that a letter be prepared for the Commissioner of Education and copied to the President of the Florida Senate, Speaker of the House, the chair of the PreK – 12 Education Committee in both the House and the Senate and the Chairman of the Black Caucus. He also stated that a timeframe should be added to the letter for a response before the final Annual Report is completed.

Mr. Ervin Cohen stated that he was in full agreement with Senator Siplin's action request.

Mr. Smith asked if there were other comments from the committee. There were none. He moved to the next topic for Annual Report timeline. Mr. Smith stated that he will email Ms. Leven-Forbes a copy of the first draft of the reported material for review by the committee to make all changes before November 4. He said by October 24 the draft should be prepared for

distribution to the committee for feedback. Mr. Smith asked Mr. Cohen if he would review the materials for the Annual Report and give feedback for corrections or suggestions.

Mr. Cohen stated that he would be able to review materials for the Annual Report for correction and suggestions.

Mr. Smith talked about needing a long-term project in education. He said that he is looking for ways to acquire funding to run a pilot program either through the Jacksonville Urban League or an existing local council. Mr. Smith stated that the Council needs to have a pilot project. He said that he talked to Commissioner Robinson about the needs of the Council. Mr. Smith stated that Commissioner Robinson is willing to help solicit funds to support the activities of the Council. He requested that each member bring at least one recommendation of a project for a focus point of a long-term project for the next meeting. Mr. Smith moved to the next agenda item and opened the floor for member comments.

Fifth Agenda Item: Members Comments

There were none. Mr. Smith moved to the next agenda item and opened the floor for discussions.

Sixth Agenda Item: Discussion

Mr. Smith asked for further discussions, there were none. He moved to the next agenda item.

Seventh Agenda Item: Next Meeting

Ms. Leven-Forbes stated that the next meeting is November 30, 2011 at 9:00 a.m.

Mr. Smith requested that a meeting be scheduled for October before the Councils meeting in November.

Eighth Agenda Item: Adjournment

Mr. Smith declared the meeting adjourned.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:14 a.m.